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MEETING WITH PRESIDENT THIEU, APRIL 25, 1972

1. As I mentioned yesterday, statement will be made at noon Washington time today (1:00 a. m., Saigon time, tomorrow, April 26) concerning Dr. Kissinger's trip to Moscow. The text of the statement will say:

> Between April 20 and April 24, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, was in Moscow to confer with the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU Brezhnev and Foreign Minister Gromyko. The discussion dealt with important international problems as well as with bilateral matters preparatory to the talks between President Nixon and Soviet leaders in May.

2. While the Soviets would not agree to specific mention of Viet-Nam, the text by itself infers that Viet-Nam was discussed and does not need any further elaboration.

3. It is essential that no public statements be made here about Dr. Kissinger's trip to Moscow and especially to the fact that Viet-Nam was discussed since this could upset the whole plan. Consequently, if queried by the press about the trip or its significance, we should refuse to comment.

4. It is also equally important that no reference be made to Dr. Kissinger's Moscow visit by Ambassador Lam or Ambassador Porter when they are questioned about our return to the plenary session on April 27. Ambassador Porter has been so instructed.

5. Ambassador Porter has been instructed to keep in close touch with Ambassador Lam and to keep the latter fully informed. Ambassador Porter will receive this information at the opening of business, Paris time, which is about 1500 Saigon time today.

6. Hanoi has agreed to meet secretly on May 2 with strong urging from the Soviets. We believe it is significant that Katushev, the Soviet Central Committee Secretary, is due to arrive in Hanoi from Moscow on April 24.

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
State Dept. Guidelines
By KBH, NARA, Date 6/3/99

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4/25/72.

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Cancelled per E.O. 12356, Sec. 1.3 and
Archivist's memo of March 16, 1983
By KBH NARS date 7/29/91

April 25, 1972. ~~TOP SECRET~~/SENSITIVE